

Copyright

Albion Middle School

August 19, 2012

An important thing to know about the Jordan and Canyons School districts in regards to copyright law follows: **You must be in compliance with two policies: 1) federal fair use copyright law and 2) district policy.** Some districts only require educators to be in compliance with federal fair use copyright law. If you do not comply with district policy—***even if you have complied with federal fair use copyright law***—you risk the district choosing not to defend you in court if a litigious situation arises.

1. What is fair use copyright law?

Fair use copyright law allows educators to use some published materials for given lengths of time ***in a face-to-face teaching environment in which the material shown is directly tied to course curriculum.*** The ***materials must be owned and not rented.*** Here are details for given situations for fair use as outlined by the Jordan School District: The Canyons School District's copyright policy is still under construction.

<http://policymanual.jordandistrict.org/policies/de505.html>

2. What district policies are stricter than fair use copyright law?

MOST IMPORTANT: The Canyons School District policy as adopted from the Jordan School District forbids any use of any video/DVD not catalogued and shelved in **either 1) the district's media center or 2) the school's media center—even if the showing of the video/DVD would be in compliance with federal fair use copyright law.**

If you would like to have a video catalogued in the Albion Middle School library for use in your classroom, you must do the following:

- a. If the item is a donation, donate the video/DVD to Albion Middle School for permanent use. In the past, teachers were allowed to house a video in the school's library and have it "weeded" back to them if they left the school. We are currently not allowed to do this. For now, if you donate a video/DVD to the school, it will remain with the school if you leave unless a) it was purchased with your legislative money *and* b) you are transferring to another Canyons School district site.
- b. If you are requesting a new video, fill out the video request form (available in library).
- c. Preview the video/DVD in its entirety if possible.
- d. Sign the form and submit the form to your department chairman. After the department chairman has approved the video, it must be approved by the principal.
- e. Bring the donated video/DVD or the video request form to the library.
- f. For donated videos, allow one week's time for processing. For video orders, the library will try to order the video within 2 days of receiving your request.

No rented copies of videos/DVDs may be used in classrooms: Use of rented videos/DVDs is in violation of both federal law and district policy restrictions.

The Jordan School District has traditionally purchased, and now the Canyons School District has purchased, a **Public Performance Site License** for each school which allows educators to show videos from the following companies for purposes other than face-to-face instruction (rewards, etc.). Our current license expires October 31, 2011. It is up to the district to determine whether or not this will be renewed.

Disney Pictures, Touchstone Pictures, Hollywood Pictures, Columbia Pictures, Tri-Star Pictures, Paramount Pictures, DreamWorks Pictures, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Miramax Films, United Artists, Warner Bros., Sony Pictures, NBC Universal, Lionsgate, Picturehouse, and New Line Cinema.

You may never charge an entrance fee, etc. The license also allows faculty at Albion to use videos/DVDs marked "for home use only."

Other questions frequently asked:

May I show a YouTube video as part of my instruction?

Yes, you may, but be aware the Canyons School District currently has no official policy for showing YouTube. Please treat a YouTube video in a similar fashion to that of a tangible video/DVD. ***You must preview the YouTube video. Do not search YouTube live in front of students.*** Because there is no district policy, fair use laws only apply in this situation: *The video should be used for face-to-face instruction and not as a reward.* Whether or not you can use an entire YouTube video does not seem to be in debate. Be wise. Do not plan on district back-up although you would likely get it. Be sure to choose middle school-appropriate YouTube videos for your classes. If you have questions, show the YouTube clip to a member of the administration before showing it to your classes as you would when previewing a video or DVD.

How may I copy print materials including music for my classes?

Do not copy and distribute any copyrighted print materials in any length, number, or fashion except as allowed by Jordan School District's policy DE505.

Source: This document was adapted from "Copyright, Eastmont Middle School," by Brenda Anderson.